

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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61919

1947	E	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; display: inline-block;">           E 3282 21         </div>
PALESTINE		
Registry Number } E3282/3282/31 FROM } 70 No. } Minute Dated } 21 Apr 1947 Received in Registry } 23 - -	British Representation on Political Committee. Proposed draft letter to Sir A. Badogian discussing British representation on the Committee to be set up by assembly to examine political situation.	
Last Paper. <del>70</del>	(Minutes.) <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 1.2em;">12. Apr. 23</div>	
References.	G. P. P. New York Ct 1269 PRIMER 27/4 <div style="text-align: right; font-size: 1.2em;">373. 87</div>	
(Print.) 61919		
(How disposed of.) Opt. Sir A. Badogian U.K. Del. New York. Apr 21. per Sir O. Largent		
(Action completed.) JEM 24/4	(Index.) 24/4/48	
Next Paper: 3559		

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FO

371 / 61919

Reference:-

F 3282

R/AD

Nothing to be Written in this Margin.

I submit herewith a draft letter to  
 Sir A. Cadogan, drafted at Sir O. Sargent's  
 request.

I have made a reference in the draft  
 to Sir Norman Brook as Mr. Keeley believes  
 that there is still some slight possibility  
 of securing him. Sir N. Brook himself  
 would very much like to have the job.

R. Sargent  
 2/4

5077, 21

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No. F3252/323431

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Confidential  
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G.

CUT FILE

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W.1.

21 April, 1947.

Draft.

Sir A. Cadogan,  
New York.

from

Sir Orme Sargent

We have been considering the question of British representation on the Committee which it is proposed the Assembly should appoint to examine the Palestine question, assuming, that is, that the Assembly decide in favour of the larger Committee of 26.

I suggested recently to the Secretary of State for the Colonies that Gater might be asked to take on this job. Creech Jones promised to sound him, but was very doubtful whether he would be able to agree, for reasons of health. He was however more hopeful of securing Gater if the Committee was to sit in some place such as Geneva.

A possible alternative candidate is Norman Brook, who would be excellent, but ~~it is more than doubtful whether he could be spared from his work on the Cabinet Secretariat.~~

As you know, we think that <sup>some place like</sup> Geneva ~~some such place~~ would be the most suitable headquarters for the Committee. If, however, it is decided that the Committee is to sit in New York, and if we are not able to find a suitable man, <sup>Creech Jones has asked</sup> I have been wondering whether you would feel able to take on the work of British representative, in addition to your other activities. I imagine that it would be a fairly full time job, but you might be able to delegate a certain amount of it to Lawford or to the Foreign Office and Colonial

Office/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*Mr. Halford*  
*Bridges is offered to the Secretary to the Committee being employed on full time away from his proper job, & employed on or off their various work which can not always be specified*

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*experts*  
Office representatives.

If, of course, the Assembly plump for the smaller Committee of 11, we shall need no British representative, but in that case it would seem desirable to strengthen the hand of the British ~~expert~~ *in person* who will no doubt be called on to furnish information to the Committee (~~these experts would probably be~~ Bealey from the Foreign Office, Trafford Smith from the Colonial Office and MacGillivray, from the Jerusalem Secretariat) by grouping them under a senior representative who would, however, only required to appear very occasionally before the Committee when circumstances seemed to require it. If the Committee of 11 sits in New York, would you be prepared to assume this function?

Could you please let me have your views by telegram.

*BB 77, 21*

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FROM NEW YORK TO FOREIGN OFFICE

(From Permanent United Kingdom Representative to the United Nations)

No. 1269..

April 27th, 1947.

D: 12.26.p.m. April 27th, 1947.

R: 7.10.p.m. April 27th, 1947.

Following for Sir C. Jargent.

Your letter of April 21st.

F. 3282|-|3

1. I will do all I can to help but I think you ought to find someone to substitute for me.

2. The next few months are likely to be extremely busy with the Greek Commission report, the report of the Military Staff Committee and conventional disarmament (quite apart from new items that may be sprung on Security Council). Then there should be considerable activity in atomic energy affairs and though I can delegate most of this to Sir C. Darwin and Miles I may inevitably get involved in it. So that I really cannot undertake to give sufficient time to Palestine Committee.

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**Reference:-**

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371/61918

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1947

E

PALESTINE

E 3559

30 APR

Registry Number

FROM

No.

Dated

Received in Registry

3282  
E3559/31  
P.L. Lloyd  
Colonial Office  
to Sir Dargest.  
12.4.1947  
80

U.K. Del for Special Committee.  
Resumes Action of U.K.  
Del. on the Political and  
Economic Committee which  
meeting of U.K. is expected to appoint.

Last Paper.

~~3282~~ 3282

References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

Opt. L.S. Lloyd  
B.O.  
from L.S. Dargest  
✓ July 4

(Action completed.)

(Index.)

L.S. Lloyd

16/9/48

Next Paper.

6340

NR 2000

(Minutes.)

9. P.P. 4.0. Minute L.S. Lloyd 26/6  
" " " " " 9/5  
" " " " " 18/6  
H.B. 7/17

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8

think out-of-date as you have had a talk with Sir T. Lloyd.

There seems agreement that Fitzgerald, the Chief Justice of Palestine, would be a good leader of the team of witnesses, and possibly a good member of the Special Committee is required.

Of the other names, Sen.  
A. Salter seems to me the best - he  
is more effective in the U.S. - and  
at Geneva than in his own country;  
but he may have already expressed strong views

Reference:-

37 / 61616

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views one way or another.  
 Meanwhile, I gather, the  
 line is to await developments.

MB  
 10/10

I really think we had  
 been heard this ~~water~~  
 until we know what  
 we have got to call  
 it. To this <sup>is</sup> ~~agri.~~  
 become clear <sup>to</sup>  
 next few days.

BB  
 May 13

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Please see the attached letter from Sir T. Lloyd, Colonial Office, to Sir O. Sargent (E 3559) and Sir A. Cadogan's telegram No. 1269 to Sir Orme Sargent in answer to the latter's letter in E 3282.

I have deferred minuting these papers in anticipation of some indication from New York of whether the investigating Committee is to be a large one, on which we will be represented or a small one on which we will not be represented, but before which we should presumably be asked to give evidence.

As, however, time is passing, and the Special Session of the Assembly has not yet made up its mind on this essential point, it seems desirable to put preliminary views down on paper. I have discussed the position tentatively with Mr. Mason and Mr. Beckett.

If we are to be represented on the Committee, I think we must, in the light of Sir A. Cadogan's telegram, try to find some other suitable person for the job, even if the Committee is to sit in New York. The following names are suggested:-

Lord Hankey,

Sir Arthur Salter,

Mr. Walter Elliot,

One of the Lords of Appeal,

Sir Harold MacMichael.

If it is to be one of the Lords of Appeal, it would be necessary to approach the Lord Chancellor and also to leave the choice to him. Mr. Beckett suggests that as the Committee would be meeting in the summer months, ~~it would not involve~~ serious interference with judicial work *would be involved.*

Mr. Walter Elliot should perhaps be ruled out, because I believe he wrote a letter to the "Times" in about August of last year advocating partition. It would seem better that the British Representative of the Committee should be a man of judgment and experience but with an open mind on the Palestine question.

This would possibly also rule out Sir Harold MacMichael as ~~a~~ British Representative on the Committee. If, however, the Special Assembly decides in favour of the smaller Committee, on which we are not represented, then it has occurred to us that Sir Harold MacMichael might be a suitable person to lead a team of British experts giving evidence.

This/

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

*in view of the fact that he is a former High Commissioner of Palestine.*

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This suggestion would, however, be subject, of course, to the views of the Colonial Office. I have consulted Mr. Trafford Smith semi-officially on this point and am awaiting his reply.

In any case, I think that we should consider the position very carefully before agreeing to Sir P. Lloyds' suggestion in his letter in E 3559 that Mr. Martin of the Colonial Office should lead the "team of experts", for it seems doubtful whether he is a sufficiently impressive personality, or whether he would be able to put the view, or give the evidence, of H.M. Government in a sufficiently convincing way.

*R. Gurnam*  
9th May, 1947.

*W. M. Gurnam*  
9/5

Mr. Bealey's minute.

It is still not quite certain what the Committee's requirements will be. But the Chairman, when I saw him in New York, intended to propose that they should ask the mandatory Power to send a representative to give evidence in Geneva, shortly after their arrival there.

The Committee may be in Geneva by about the 20th July.  
/ 9

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I think, therefore, that we should be ready by that date with both a Delegation and the main lines of our evidence.

For the Delegation, which would probably not need to spend more than three or four days in Geneva, I suggest that we need a spokesman who will impress the Committee as authoritative, and approximately three advisers (representing the Palestinian Government, the Colonial Office and the Foreign Office, with perhaps a fourth from the office of the Chiefs of Staff?). Possibly the Minister of State would be able to go as spokesman and leader of the Delegation. Or, failing that, Mr. George Thomas

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as Sir Norman Brock. I assume  
that Sir Norman Brock could be  
spared for a few days.

H. B. C. C. C.

Sir Norman Brock, of course, knows the  
subject well, and would certainly  
make a very good impression  
on the Committee.

24/6

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## Palestine Commission.

Sir O. Sargent

A U.K. team is required to give evidence at Geneva about July 20<sup>th</sup> -  
Please see Sir Bealey's minute of  
June 18<sup>th</sup>.

I understand that Mr McNeil  
expects to leave <sup>on July 10<sup>th</sup></sup> for the Economic &  
Social Council meeting in N. York.

I presume that the reasons against  
Sir N. Brook are still operative -  
tho' it seems from the file that he  
is not himself averse to representing  
H.M.G. before U.N. bodies. It looks  
as if Sir Ifor Thomas <sup>if available</sup> should  
lead the team with Sir Bealey as  
F.O. representative.

The Chief of Staff representative  
might stand by in this country until  
it is clear that he is wanted.

MButler

26/vi

I must speak to  
Sir R. Bridges again  
about this. Please  
fix up a meeting

June 27  
/Sw

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EX-3559

COLONIAL OFFICE,  
DOWNING STREET, S.W.1.

Personal.

To Sir

24th April, 1947.

Dear Sargent,

In the talk which you had with my Secretary of State on Friday last it was agreed that we must abandon the idea of getting Norman Brook to lead any United Kingdom Delegation or "Team of Experts" when the Palestine problem comes before the Special Committee which the forthcoming Assembly of the United Nations is expected to appoint. The suggestion was then made that Gater might undertake this, and I was instructed to sound him about that. I wrote to him at once but, owing to his being out of Town for a few days, I was unable to see him until this morning. He then explained to me the private reasons which would definitely preclude his acceptance of any invitation of this kind, should one be extended to him. I am quite satisfied that in the circumstances of which he told me it would be unreasonable to press him further in this matter, and we must therefore consider other possibilities.

If the Foreign Office have good reason to expect that the Special Committee (or whatever other body may be appointed by the Assembly) could not in any event begin work until some time after the Assembly is finished, and if the meeting of the latter is in any event likely to last a fortnight or so, perhaps we can afford to wait a little before considering further the selection of a person to lead our Delegation or "Team of Experts". The selection might, I suppose, be influenced by both

Sir Orme Sargent, K.C.B., K.C.M.G.

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*Draft.* H. B.  
Sir Thomas Lloyd,  
Colonial Office.

(From Sir Orme  
Sargent)

NOTHING TO BE WRITTEN IN THIS MARGIN.

3148 Wt. 26469/137 100m 9/46 (51) F.&S.

4  
OUT FILE  
4 July, 1947.

Dear Lloyd,

Although it is not yet certain that the United Nations Committee on Palestine will invite H.M.G. to present evidence at Geneva, we have been considering how the British delegation should be composed if they should do so. The candidates we have had in mind for the leadership of the delegation are Mr. Ivor Thomas and Sir Norman Brook.

I learn from Bridges that Brook, who has been ill, will not have returned to work in time to undertake this task. This leaves Mr. Thomas alone in the field, so far as our thinking has gone, and I understand that he is likely to be both available and willing to lead the delegation.

I should be glad to know whether you agree that the two Departments should recommend that Mr. Thomas be invited to go to Geneva in this capacity. If so, there is probably no need to follow up a suggestion put to me by Bridges, that Gater should be approached again.

*OC July 2*

(for Sir Orme Sargent)  
(Sgd.) Oliver Harvey.

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(S.367/3262/21)

OUT FILE

19  
19th July, 1927.

Dear Lloyd,

Although it is not yet certain what the United Nations Committee on Palestine will invite His Majesty's Government to present evidence at Geneva, we have been considering how the British delegation should be composed if they should do so. The candidates we have had in mind for the leadership of the delegation are Mr. Ivor Thomas and Sir Norman Brock.

I learn from Bridges that Brock, who has been ill, will not have returned to work in time to undertake this task. This leaves Mr. Thomas alone in the field, so far as our thinking has gone, and I understand that he is likely to be both available and willing to lead the delegation.

I should be glad to know whether you agree that the two Departments should recommend that Mr. Thomas be invited to go to Geneva in this capacity. If so, there is probably no need to follow up a suggestion put to me by Bridges, that Gater should be approached again.

(for Sir Ome Sargent)

(Sgd.) Oliver Hawley

Sir Thomas Lloyd, K.C.M.G.,  
Colonial Office.

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E 6340

PALESTINE

17 JUL 1947

Registry  
Number

**FROM**

No.

*Dated*

Received  
in Registry

## Last Paper.

357-9

## References.

(Print.)

(How disposed of.)

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*P.M. 147/105*  
*signed by*

12/1/19

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(Action completed.)

(Index.)

**Next Paper.**

Wt. 24772/717 17895 10/38 F.O.I.

**Reference:-**

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371 / 61916

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21  
O S. G. B.  
Private Secretary 11/17

Please see Sir T.  
Lloyd's letter to Sir  
D. Harvey, and draft  
minutes from 5<sup>15</sup> to  
P.M., both attached.  
The draft has been  
approved by Sir M.  
Baker.

H. B. G. B.  
11/17

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**COLONIAL OFFICE:**

**DOWNING STREET, S.W.1.**

E 6340  
JUL 19 1947

17 JUL 1947

Dear Harvey,

Thank you for your letter (E.3559/3282/31) of the 4th of July about the composition of the British delegation to Geneva if His Majesty's Government present evidence there to the United Nations Committee on Palestine.

Mr. Creech Jones agrees that Mr. Ivor Thomas should be invited to lead our delegation, and Mr. Thomas, to whom I have spoken will be available and is willing to undertake this task. We should support him by sending either Martin or Trafford Smith and we assume that you too would make somebody available to assist him.

I assume from the wording of the last paragraph of your letter that you ~~now~~ propose that a recommendation for the leadership of the delegation to be entrusted to Mr. Thomas should now be made to the Prime Minister. If so Mr. Creech Jones would wish to be associated with that recommendation; so if Mr. Bevin intends to sign it perhaps you would include in it that my Secretary of State has been consulted and fully agrees.

Yours sincerely

P. I. K. / Gnd

Sir Oliver Harvey, C.B., C.M.G.

FO 371 / 61919



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*g a s m*

*1 + 4*

PM/47/105.

PRIME MINISTER.

United Nations Committee on Palestine.

The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine <sup>have</sup> ~~has~~ not yet decided whether, in addition to the evidence of the Palestine Government, <sup>they</sup> ~~it~~ wish ~~also~~ also to hear evidence from His Majesty's Government as the mandatory Power. It seems probable, however, in the light of remarks made informally by the Committee's Chairman, that they will decide to invite us to send a representative to Geneva for this purpose.

2. The Committee are expected to arrive in Geneva towards the end of July, and if they wish to hear a representative of His Majesty's Government they will presumably do so shortly after their arrival. I think, therefore, that we should begin now to make preparations for sending a delegation to Geneva. I have consulted the Colonial Secretary, and we have agreed to recommend to you that the delegation should be led by Mr. Ivor Thomas, who would be assisted by a small team of officials

drawn/

*243. 11/17*

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371 / 61919



drawn from the two offices and from Jerusalem.

3. I shall be glad to know whether you approve of this proposal.

July 11th, 1947.

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OUT FILE

E6340/3282/31

P.M./47/105

PRIME MINISTER.United Nations Committee on Palestine.

The United Nations Special Committee on Palestine have not yet decided whether, in addition to the evidence of the Palestine Government, they wish also to hear evidence from His Majesty's Government as the mandatory Power. It seems probable, however, in the light of remarks made informally by the Committee's Chairman, that they will decide to invite us to send a representative to Geneva for this purpose.

2. The Committee are expected to arrive in Geneva towards the end of July, and if they wish to hear a representative of His Majesty's Government they will presumably do so shortly after their arrival. I think, therefore, that we should begin now to make preparations for sending a delegation to Geneva. I have consulted the Colonial Secretary, and we have agreed to recommend to you that the delegation should be led by Mr. Ivor Thomas, who would be assisted by a small team of

officials/

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officials drawn from the two offices and from Jerusalem.

3. I shall be glad to know whether you approve of this proposal.

(Sd.) ERNEST BEVIN

14th July, 1947.

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THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS



10, DOWNING STREET,  
WHITEHALL,

16th July, 1947.

COPY OF MINUTE BY THE PRIME MINISTER.

Reference: The Foreign Secretary's minute to the Prime Minister dated 14.7.47.  
(P.M./47/105) about the United Nations Committee on Palestine.

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6340 3282 31

"I agree.

C.R.A.

16.7.47."

**Copy also sent to :**

### Reference:-

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